

Appl No. 10/760233  
Amdt. Dated: October 03, 2006  
Response to Office Action of July 25, 2006

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### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of July 25, 2006 in the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

#### ***Regarding Amendment***

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the support member of each printhead module commonly supports, and carries printing fluid for, the printhead integrated circuits of the respective printhead modules. Support for this amendment can be found at page 6, lines 28-34 and page 9, line 22-page 11, line 23 of the present specification; and dependent claims 2-7 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

#### ***Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections***

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-7 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Silverbrook '908 in view of Silverbrook '954 and/or Lu, for at least the following reasons.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner has modified their interpretation of Silverbrook '908 in order to assert that the element 10 of Silverbrook '908 corresponds to the claimed printhead modules, not the element 12 of Silverbrook '908 as previously asserted. In the interpretation however, the Examiner maintains that the element 28 of Silverbrook '908 corresponds to the claimed support members of the printhead modules.

As discussed above, independent claim 1 has been further amended to clarify that the support member of each printhead module commonly supports and carries printing fluid for the printhead integrated circuits of the respective printhead module. Accordingly, as claimed, the support members of the aligned printhead modules are configured to not only

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carry printing fluid for the printhead integrated circuits directly supported thereby, but also for the printhead integrated circuits of the adjacent printhead module(s).

In this way, the printhead assembly can be easily scaled up in length by simply arranging additional printhead modules. This arrangement is clearly described at page 6, lines 28-34 and page 9, line 22-page 11, line 23 of the present specification.

On the other hand, the element 28 of Silverbrook '908 is an individual support molding for each individual element 12 (see col. 2, lines 9-16 and 59-60 of Silverbrook '908). Thus, the element 28 does not commonly support and carry printing fluid for all of the elements 12 of the element 10, contrary to the Examiner's assertion.

Rather, in Silverbrook '908, the ink reservoir/reservoir molding 16/32 is arranged to carry ink for all of the elements 12 of the element 10 (see col. 2, lines 6-8 and 20-27 of Silverbrook '908). However, as can be clearly seen from Fig. 15 of Silverbrook '908, when multiple elements 10 are arranged together, the ink is not communicated directly between the ink reservoir/reservoir moldings 16/32 of the elements 10, rather individual ink supply hoses 118 are used to individually supply ink to each element 10 (see also col. 7, line 38-col. 8, line 5 of Silverbrook '908).

Further, the Examiner asserts that the elements 15 and 16 of Silverbrook '954 are configured to communicate printing fluid with another, as cites element 11 of Silverbrook '954, such that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify the elements 28 of Silverbrook '908.

However, the elements 15 and 16 of Silverbrook '954 are merely an extrusion 15 and channel 16 into which the modules 11 are plugged into in order to form the printhead assembly 10 (see paragraphs [0051]-[0052]), which is the same arrangement as that in Silverbrook '908 in which the elements 12 are plugged into to the ink reservoir/reservoir molding 16/32 to form the element 10.

Thus, as Silverbrook '954 does not further teach or suggest to configure the elements 15/16 of the printhead assembly 10 to directly communicate ink with the elements 15/16 of adjacent printhead assembly(s) 10, there is no teaching or suggestion from the disclosure of

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Silverbrook '954 which would cause one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the ink reservoir/reservoir molding 16/32 of Silverbrook '908 to communicate printing fluid with adjacent ink reservoir/reservoir moldings 16/32, as is required by amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-7 dependent therefrom.

Further still, as previously discussed by the Applicant in the prosecution of the present application, Lu does not make up for these deficiencies in Silverbrook '908 and Silverbrook '954.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-7 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed or suggested by Silverbrook '908 either taken alone or in combination with one or more of Silverbrook '9054 and Lu.

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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

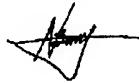
Very respectfully,

Applicant/s:



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